

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIEP-01 COME-00 EB-07

FEAE-00 FPC-01 INT-05 OMB-01 SAM-01 OES-03 STR-04

TRSE-00 FRB-03 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 CAB-02

DOTE-00 FAA-00 /125 W

----- 051640

P 121500Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6482

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL AMSTERDAMPRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY GENEVA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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CASA FOR RCAA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG

SUBJECT: PROPECTIVE ACUTE JET FUEL SHORTAGE AT KINSHASA

REF: KINSHASA 664 (NOTAL

1. MOBIL OIL HAS SERVICES CONTRACT WITH STATE-OWNED PETROLEUM MONOPOLY,PETROZAIRE. ON FEBRUARY 12 MOBIL DIRECTOR DUBRULE GAVE EMBOFF FOLLOWING INFO RE POL SITUATION:

2. ZAIRE, EXCLUDING SHABA REGION: CENTRAL BANK FINALLY MADE \$2.8 MILLION ALLOCATION TO PETROZAIRE WHICH ENABLED LOADING GASOLINE, DIESEL, JET FUEL, AND KEROSENE ONTO TANKER WHICH HAS BEEN STANDING OFF TENERIFE REFINERY FOR LAST TEN DAYS AWAITING RECEIPT OF MONEY. LOADING SHOULD BE COMPLETED EVENING FEB 12 AND TANKER SHOULD ARRIVE ZAIRE FEB 25. HOWEVER, COMPLICATED TRANSPORTATION PROCEDURES FROM ZAIRE RIVER TO KINSHASA WILL MEAN THAT PRODUCTS WILL NOT ARRIVE KINSHASA UNTIL APPROXIMATELY MARCH 3 OR 4.

3. REFINERY WHICH SUPPLIES APPROXIMATELY HALF OF KINSHASA AREA PRODUCTION REQUIREMENTS IS NOW FUNCTIONING NORMALLY AFTER APPROXIMATELY FIFTEEN DAYS SHUTDOWN DUE TO DELAY IN ARRIVAL OF TANKER TO REMOVE EXCESS FUEL OIL.

4. BECAUSE OF REFINERY SHUTDOWN AND DELAY IN IMPORTATION OF PRODUCTS, THERE WILL BE ACUTE SHORTAGE OF KEROSENE AND JET FUEL UNTIL APPROXIMATELY MARCH 3 OR 4. GASOLINE STOCKS SHOULD BE ADQUATE PROVIDED THERE IS NO PANIC BUYING.

5. DUBULE HAS RECOMMENDED TO PETROZAIRE DIRECTOR THAT BEGINNING FEB 16 ALL INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS TO KINSHASA BE RESTRICTED TO 75 PER CENT OF NORMAL JET FUEL LOADING (NO REDUCTION HAS OF YET BEEN ORDERED). HE ANTICIPATES THAT 25 PER CENT REDUCTION IN OFF TAKE WILL BE SUFFICIENT UNTIL PRODUCT SUPPLIES ENROUTE ARRIVE BUT ADDED THAT THE SITUATION WOULD BE MUCH CLEARER IN APPROXIMATELY ONE WEEK.

6 DUBRULE STATED THAT, AS PASSENGER AND FREIGHT LOADING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AT THIS SEASON OF THE YEAR ARE NORMALLY LIGHT, 25 PER CENT REDUCTION SHOULD NOT GREATLY HAMPER INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES WHICH MAKE STOPS RELATIVELY CLOSE TO ZAIRE. HOWEVER, IT COULD CAUSE CANCELLATION OF SOME INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS FROM EUROPE TO KINSHASA/JOHANNESBURG AND RETURN IF THEY ARE NOT ABLE TO OBTAIN PERMISSION FOR TECHNICAL STOP FOR REFUELING.

7. SHABA AREA: THERE IS NO PARTICULAR SHORTAGE OF POL
SUPPLIES IN THE SHABA AREA WHICH IS SUPPLIED VIA RAIL AND
TANK CARS FROM JOHANNESBURG, BUT THESE SUPPLIES ARE NOT
SUFFICIENT TO PERMIT REFUELING OF INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC
AT LUBUMBASHI INSTEAD OF KINSHASA. WALKER

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